Selling up of a Southern Gas Grid

4757. SHRI SOM PAL :
SHRI M. A. BABY :

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to set up a Southern gas grid in South India ;

(b) if so, what are the details of the whole project including investment, capacity availability, source of gas, areas served, uses down the line and benefits accruing therefrom; and

(c) by when the project is expected to become operational ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH SHARMA : (a) to (c) The concept of laying a gas pipeline from a suitable point on the Western Coast to the Southern Region has been approved in principle. An Export Group is studying the parameters of a domestic pipeline network for the distribution of gas proposed to be imported from the Middle-East. The Southern Gas Grid will be projectised after this study is completed.

Supply of Natural Gas and LSHS to Tata Electric Company Mumbai

4758. SHRI SATISH PRADHAN : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the re quired demand of Natural Gas and LSHS is not fully met to Tata Electric Company, Mumbai;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor ;

(c) whether Government have expressed its inability to meet their demand;

(d) whether Govemment have informed this situation to Ministry of Power to avoid any crisis and make alternative arrangement to meet the power demand in the industrial belt;

(e) if not, what are the reasons therefor ; and

(f) what steps Government contemplate to avoid likely crisis ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH SHARMA) : (a) to (f) The average gas supplies to TEC during Apirl 1993 to February 1994 was 1.22 MMSCMD against the allocation of 1.5 MMSCMD. The supplies of LSHS have made up for the shortfall in all the months except December, 1993. The Ministry of Power has been kept informed of the position of fuel supplies to the TEC. Efforts are continuing to maximise the supply of natural gas and LSHS.

Curbing the consumption of Petroleum Products

4759. SHRI IQBAL SINGH : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) what steps Government propose to take to curb the consumption of petroleum products in the country ; and

(b) what was the total amount of foreign exchange spent on imports of petroleum products during the last three years ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH SHARMA) : (a) The steps includes adoption of practices for increasing fuel-efficiency in the transport sector; upgradation of lubricants; replacement of inefficient boilers and furnaces and promotion of fuel efficient equipment and practices in the industrial sector; rectification of irrigation pumpsets in the agriculture sector; development and promotion of fuel efficient kerosene and LPG stoves and hurricane lanterns in the domestic sector; and launching multi-media awareness campaigns and imparting of education and training to I the various target group of oil user*.

(b) The amounts of foreign exchange spent on the imports of petroleum products during the last three years are as follows :

(Qty.—Million tonnes. Value Rs./crores)

Year	Quantity	Value
1991-92	9.45	5218
1992-93*	11.28	6360
1993-94*	12.075	7041

*Provisional.

Stoppage of work by ONGC in Nagaland

4760. SHRI BISHAMBHAR NAIK PANDE : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the ONGC staff has stopped drilling work in Nagaland because of the threat caused by the militant organisations in that area; and

(b) if so, what steps Government are taking to give protection to the ONGC employees to continue with the drilling operations in that area ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH SHARMA) : (a) Work had only been temporarily halted.

(b) Security arrangements have been further augmented. Also, Govt, of Nagaland have been apprised of the situation.

Black Marketng by Dealers of Petroleum Products

4761. SHRI S. AUSTIN : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state that the details of action taken or being taken by Government against petrol/diesel retail outlets and LPG agencies which have been found selling petroleum products in black market during the last two years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH SHARMA) : The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Defaulting LPG Distributors in Delhi

4762. SHRI S. AUSTIN : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have received complaints about supply of LPG cylinders containing less quantity of gas to the consumers by the LPG distributors; and

(b) if so, the number of such complaints received from Delhi and other States during 1993?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH SHARMA : (a) and (b) LPG Marketing Oil Companies have reported that a total of 11 established complaints of supply of underweight cylinders have been received from all over the country during 1993, out of which 7 complaints have been from Delhi.

Proposals from Gujarat for laying new gas pipelines

4763. SHRI ANANTRAY DEV-SHAKER DAVE: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) the details of proposals received from the Government of Gujarat for laying new gas pipelines during the last one year;

(b) whether the Central Government has granted approval to these proposal*;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH